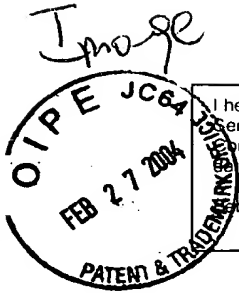


Gp1772



I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date shown below.

February 25, 2004

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

(Carl E. Moore, Jr.)

Docket No.: 30641/37460  
(PATENT)

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of:  
Nigel John Middleton

Application No.: 09/857,596

Art Unit: 1772

Filed: August 16, 2001

Examiner: Patricia L. Nordmeyer

For: Breathable Articles and Fabrics

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT DATED FEBRUARY 25, 2004**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

**INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS**

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 7 of this paper.